

PATENT APPLICATION

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
CONTROL DURING FILM PROCESSING

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CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) to United States Provisional Patent Application Number 06/259,006, entitled *Method and System for a Microenvironment in Digital Film Processing*, having a priority filing date of December 29, 2000, and Attorney Docket Number ASF00119.

This application is related to the following copending U.S. Patent Applications:
5 ^{now U.S. Pat. No. 6,461,061}
Patent Application Number 09/751,378, entitled *Improved System and Method for Digital Film Development Using Visible Light*, having a priority filing date of December 30, 1999 and Attorney Docket Number ASF99324; Patent Application Number 09/752,013, 10 entitled *System and Method for Digital Film Development Using Visible Light*, having a priority filing date of December 30, 1999 and Attorney Docket Number ASF99286; U.S. Patent Application Number 09/774,544, entitled *Method and System for Capturing Film Images*, having a priority filing date of February 03, 2000 and Attorney Docket Number 15 ASF00005.

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention generally relates to photographic film processing and more specifically to a method and system for environmental control during film processing.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Images are used to communicate information and ideas. Images, including print pictures, film negative, documents and the like are often digitized to produce a digital image that can then be instantly communicated, viewed, enhanced, modified, printed or stored. The increasing use and flexibility of digital images, as well as the ability to 25 instantly communicate digital images, has led to a rising demand for improved systems and methods for film processing and the digitization of film based images into digital

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